

the BLUE BEETLE

CDC

No 21

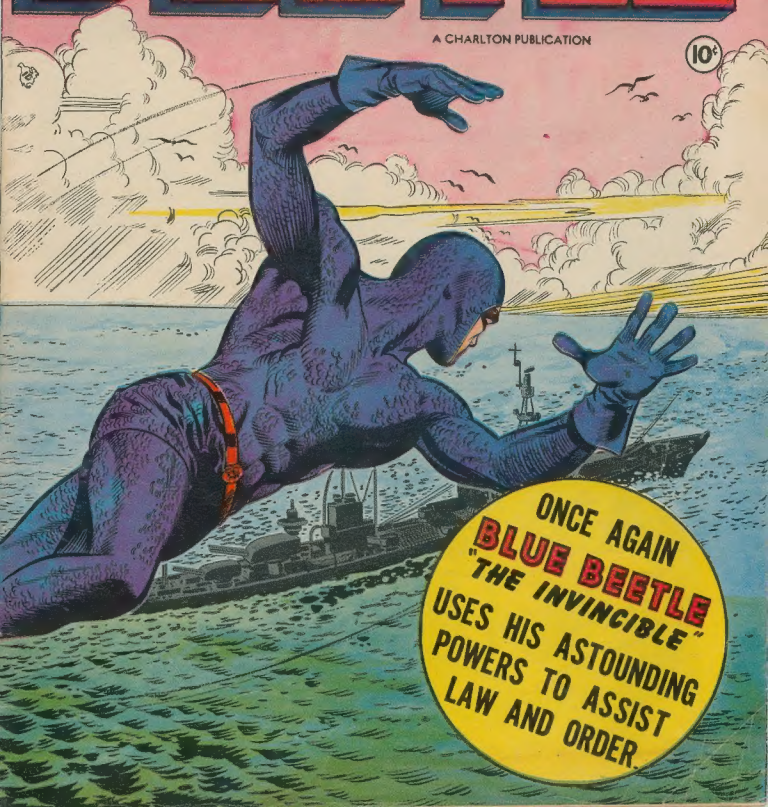
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COMICS
CODE

AUTHORITY

THE BLUE BEETLE

A CHARLTON PUBLICATION

10¢



ONCE AGAIN
BLUE BEETLE
"THE INVINCIBLE"
USES HIS ASTOUNDING
POWERS TO ASSIST
LAW AND ORDER.

AMAZING OFFER

**DO YOU NEED
EXTRA
MONEY?
\$35.00
IS YOURS**

for selling only 50 boxes of
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Other boxes on approval.
Mail coupon below today.

It costs you nothing to try.

Last year some folks made \$250—\$500—\$1,000
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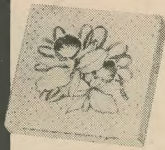
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SAMPLES**
PERSONALIZED
CHRISTMAS CARDS
and STATIONERY



**BEST WISHES
ALL OCCASION
ASSORTMENT**
21 luxurious cards—
including gold bronzing,
dainty hand finishing,
matching pastel envelopes



**LOTS OF LAFFS
HUMOROUS EVERYDAY
ASSORTMENT**
Novel animated cards
—including original cut-outs,
3-dimensional pop-out
features, bell attachments
and 36" novelty card



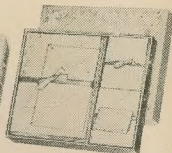
**DELUXE EVERYDAY
GIFT WRAPPING ENSEMBLE**
20 large multi-color
20" x 30" sheets in a
fascinating variety of
designs—plus matching
seals and gift tags



**TALL BEAUTIES
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Beautifully styled
and delightfully different—
all gold bronzed
and embossed



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HASTY NOTES**
French folders with
friendly messages
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velvety flocking



**BLOSSOM TIME
STATIONERY ENSEMBLE**
Embossed floral design,
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Please rush free samples, other boxes on approval
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making plan.

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City State

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ization, give its name

CHEERFUL CARD COMPANY, Dept. 113, White Plains, New York

THE BLUE BERTLE

Published bimonthly by Charlton Comics Group. Executive offices and office of publication, Charlton Building, Derby, Conn. Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office, at Derby, Conn. Price per copy 10c. Subscription 12 issues, \$1.20. Copyright 1955 by Charlton Comics Group. Designed by Al Fago Studios

Volume 3, Number 21

August, 1955

Printed in the U.S.A.

BLUE BEETLE

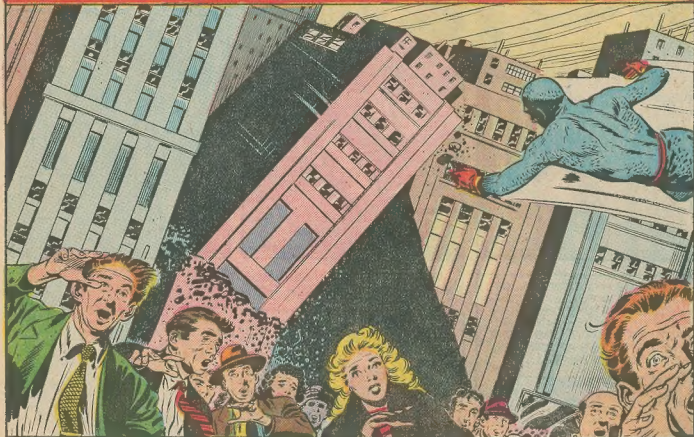
ATOMIC MOUSE ★ BADGE OF JUSTICE ★ BLUE BEETLE ★ COWBOY LOVE ★ COWBOY WEST-
ERN ★ DANGER and ADVENTURE ★ FUNNY ANIMALS—MERRY MAILMAN ★ GABBY HAYES ★
HOT RODS and RACING CARS ★ LASH LARUE ★ MONTE HALE ★ MY LITTLE MARGIE ★ ROCKY
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Every effort is made to insure that these comic magazines
contain the highest quality of wholesome entertainment.

Alfred P. Sledge Executive Editor

A CHARLTON PUBLICATION

THE UNMASKING!

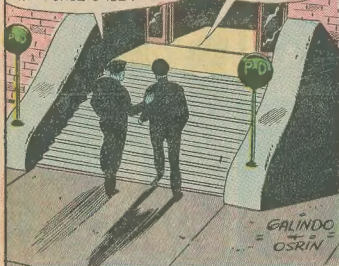


IT'S PROUD I AM OF YOU, DAN
BOY---A WHOLE DAY'S GONE
BY WITHOUT YOUR SHAMING
THE FORCE ONCE!

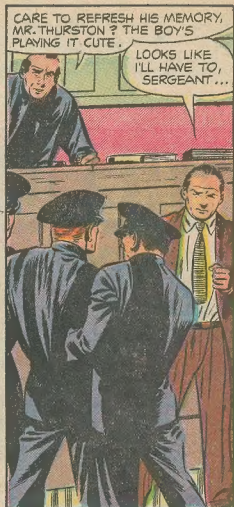
BET YOU SAY
THAT TO ALL THE
ROOKIES, MIKE...

SARGE. PIN
A MEDAL ON
DAN! HE--

PIPE DOWN, MIKE!...IF A CERTAIN
PARTY PUTS THE FINGER ON
DAN, HE'LL BE WEARING HAND-
CUFFS--- NOT A MEDAL!



BLUE BEETLE



"...WHEN THE THREE MASKED MEN SUDDENLY BURST THROUGH THE DOOR---"

STAY CLEAR OF THAT SAFE WHILE WE WORK ON IT, PAL-- AND THERE'LL BE NO TROUBLE!



"THEY HAD RIFLED THE SAFE NOW, AND WERE ON THEIR WAY OUT."

CAN'T LET THEM GET AWAY... ALL THAT MONEY...AND I'VE LET MY BURGLARY INSURANCE LAPSE!



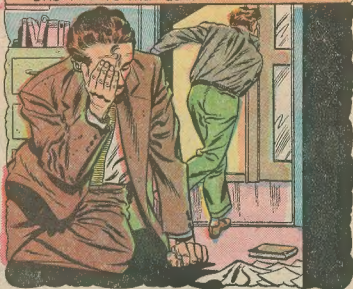
BLUE BEETLE

"IT WAS FOOLHARDY OF ME... I KNOW I WAS TAKING MY LIFE IN MY HANDS WHEN I GRAPPLED WITH ONE OF THEM--"



KEEP GOING -- I CAN HANDLE HIM!! SEE YOU AT THE HIDEOUT LATER!

"HE GOT AWAY-- BUT NOT BEFORE I'D RIPPED THE MASK FROM HIS FACE, AND HIS WALLET HAD DROPPED TO THE FLOOR!"



YOU KNOW THE REST OF THE STORY. DAN GARRET'S POLICE IDENTIFICATION CARD WAS IN THAT WALLET. AND THERE HE IS RIGHT NOW-- THE SAME MAN I GRAPPLED IN MY OFFICE!



NOT SO FAST, MISTER! WHEN DID YOU SAY THIS HAPPENED? ... DAN AND MESELF WERE WALKING OUR BEAT TOGETHER ALL AFTERNOON!

WHEN? AT EXACTLY 3:15!

UH-OH-- I'M REALLY IN DEEP, AT 3:15, MIKE HAD NO IDEA WHERE I WAS, AND I CAN'T ALIBI MYSELF OUT OF THIS MESS WITHOUT SPILLING THE SECRET THAT I'M THE BLUE BEETLE.... I-I CAN'T TELL THEM THAT JUST ABOUT THAT TIME...

... WHILE MIKE AND I WERE POUNDING THE PAVEMENT --

DAN! LOOK! ... SOMETHING MUST'VE HAPPENED TO THAT PILOT-- HIS PLANE'S HEADED RIGHT FOR THE SKYSCRAPER!



LOTS OF PEOPLE WORKING IN THAT SKYSCRAPER, HAVE TO GET INTO ACTION AS THE BLUE BEETLE FAST...



DAN BOY, WHERE ARE YOU?



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GREATEST

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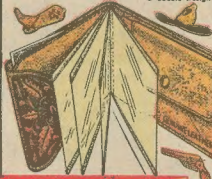
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 752. Ladies' solitaire ring. Large brilliant simulated diamond in center, 6 smaller stones. Yellow or white gold color effect.	 128. Men's birthstone ring. Large beautiful stone in red, ruby, green, emerald, blue sapphire, etc.	 105. Ladies' wedding ring. 6, 8 or 10 brilliant, simulated diamonds. Or fancy engraved with no stone. 1/20 14K gold or Sterling Silver.	 7. Love & Friendship ring. Solid Sterling Silver with 2 hearts joined. Forget-me-not design.	 189. Ladies' engagement ring. 2 smaller stones. 1/20 14K gold filled or 1/20 14K RCP or Sterling Silver.	 156. Men's massive "Coco" Last Supper ring. 4-stone clear. White or yellow gold color effect.	 146. Ladies' dinner ring. Cameo, large simulated diamond and many smaller white or yellow stones.
 114. Very Special! Ladies' solitaire ring with genuine Zircon, the closest thing to a genuine diamond. With 2 side stones. 1/20 14K yellow gold mounting.	 109. Men's silver ring with sparkling simulated diamond. Heavy yellow gold color effect mounting.	 112. Men's exquisite Masonic ring. Yellow gold color effect. Must be seen to be appreciated.	 158. Men's Jesus Christ's head ring. Yellow or white gold color effect. Also in epoxy stone. Ring came also in imported, hand carved Carved Gold.	 181. Ladies' Friendship ring. 10-stone red ruby ring. Simulated red ruby ring. 1/20 14K yellow gold filled or 1/20 14K RCP or Sterling Silver. Assorted design.	 10. Boy's and girl's upset ring. Yellow or white gold color effect or Sterling Silver.	 157. Men's beautiful, heavy Cameo ring. Large 2-stone Cameo. Christ's figure, a woman and girl design. Yellow or white gold color effect.
 46. Men's traditional wedding ring. Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.	 142. Men's massive lion head ring. Large simulated diamond in center. 2 smaller red stones in oval.	 115. Ladies' engagement ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond and many smaller stones. Unusual ring design. Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.	 116. Ladies' exquisite wedding ring. 8 or 2 matching simulated diamonds all around. Engraved with Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.	 163. Men's ring. Large, sparkling simulated red ruby ring. 1/20 14K yellow gold filled or 1/20 14K RCP or Sterling Silver. Assorted design.	 171. Ladies' engagement ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond with 4 or 6 smaller side stones. 1/20 14K RCP.	 170. Ladies' beautiful wedding ring. 7 brilliant, pasted, matching, simulated diamonds. 1/20 14K RCP.
 127. Men's ring. Beautiful, large, about 400-stone simulated red after stone. Stone comes in all sizes. White gold color effect.	 141. Ladies' dinner down ring. A beautiful gem, 7 or 8 brilliant, simulated diamonds. Center stone also in simulated red. Pastel mounting. Sterling Silver or white gold color effect.	 104. Ladies' pendant dinner ring. Large, brilliant, simulated diamond, 4 or 6 diamonds and many smaller stones. Very rare with many stones. Ring also comes in varying design.	 168. Ladies' exquisite engagement ring. 2 large, brilliant, simulated center diamonds, 2 or 4 matching Last Supper. Sterling Silver or 1/20 14K RCP.	 42. Unique hand-clasp Love & Friendship ring. Comes apart to form 2 rings. Sterling Silver.	 164. Men's massive velvet's Enchanted ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow gold color effect.	 72. Ladies' beautiful 2-stone Cameo ring. Yellow gold color effect.

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 129. Men's solitaire ring. Large brilliant simulated 180 or 200-stone diamond. Sterling Silver, yellow or white gold color effect.	 101. Ladies' immediately designed baby ring. 30's and 40's yellow gold mounting. Men's precious diamonds.	 121. Men's heavy Sterling Silver square or round shape upend ring. Suitable for engagement initials. Also in yellow or white-gold color effect.	 154. Ladies' birthstone ring. Sparkling, mount-cut, 180 to 200-stone simulated stone. Sterling Silver or white gold color effect. Stone comes in all colors.	 151. Men's ring. Simulated red ruby in center. 2 simulated white diamonds. Yellow or white gold color effect. Also with 3 large white stones.
 147. Men's U.S. Army insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.	 145. Men's U.S. Navy insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.	 144. Men's U.S. Marine Corps insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.	 143. Men's U.S. Air Force insignia ring. Heavy Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.	 8. Friendship ring. Smart looking, popular combination design. Last Sterling Silver.

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I enclose last amount \$ _____ cash, ☐ money order for my full amount.

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Name _____
Address _____
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NOTE: No C.O.D.'s to Canada or outside U.S.A. Please have \$2.00 cash with order for cash advance. Please have \$2.00 cash with order for cash advance.

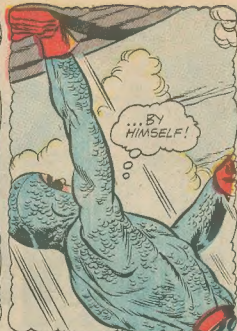
BLUE BEETLE

EVERY SPLIT-SECOND COUNT-
ED! I PEELED MY UNIFORM
OFF AS FAST AS I COULD--



AND THEN--

THE PILOT'S TRYING
TO PULL UP! BUT HE
CAN'T MAKE IT....



AND LATER--

WHERE WERE
YOU, LAD? YOU
MISSED ALL THE
EXCITEMENT!

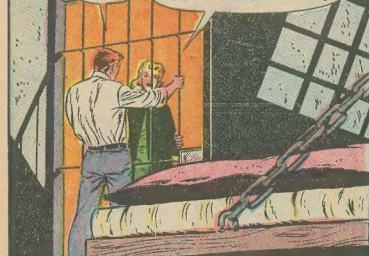
MUST'VE HAD A DIZZY SPELL,
MIKE...I-I SORT OF
BLACKED OUT AND WAN-
DERED AROUND A WHILE.



LATER--

JOAN-- IT
WAS GOOD
OF YOU TO
COME.

THEY TRIED TO STOP ME,
DAN, BUT I STARTED YELL-
ING ABOUT FREEDOM OF
THE PRESS!...DAN---YOU
DIDN'T DO IT, DID YOU?



NO, JOAN...IT'S A FRAME-UP,
BUT WHOEVER'S BEHIND
IT, MADE SURE THE FRAME
FITTED TIGHT.

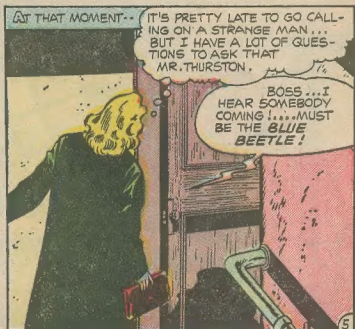
I'M ON THE
OUTSIDE, DAN.
I'LL KEEP DIGGING
TILL I GET TO
THE TRUTH.



BLUE BEETLE



MEANWHILE, AT THURSTON'S APARTMENT ---



BLUE BEETLE

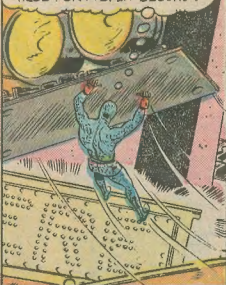
GOOD OLD X-RAY VISION!... I'VE BEEN USING IT TO WATCH THURSTON WHILE FLYING HERE--- AND I'VE BEEN READING HIS LIPS ---HEY! THAT'S JOAN ABOUT TO KNOCK AT THE DOOR....AND THEY'RE GOING TO---



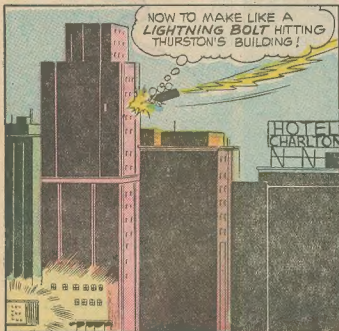
HAVE TO SAVE HER...BUT HOW CAN I DO IT WITHOUT PROVING THURSTON'S HUNCH ABOUT MY BEING DAN GARRETT IS RIGHT?.. UH-OH--THAT PREMIERE'S ABOUT TO START---AND THEY HAVE FLOODLIGHTS LINED UP!



EVERYBODY'S LOOKING THE OTHER WAY! THEY WON'T MISS THESE FOR A SPLIT SECOND!



NOW TO MAKE LIKE A LIGHTNING BOLT HITTING THURSTON'S BUILDING!



HEY! WH-WHAT HAPPENED? LIGHTNING! ...THE BUILDING WAS HIT BY LIGHTNING.



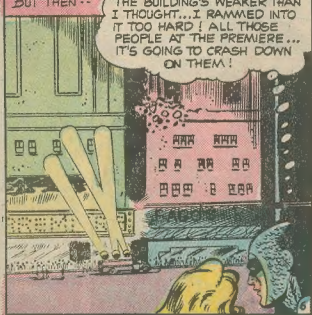
AFTER REPLACING THE FLOODLIGHTS WITH MIRACULOUS SPEED...

JOAN'S PASSED OUT!... SORRY I HAD TO SHAKE HER UP SO--- BUT IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP HER FROM WALKING INTO THAT TRAP!



BUT THEN --

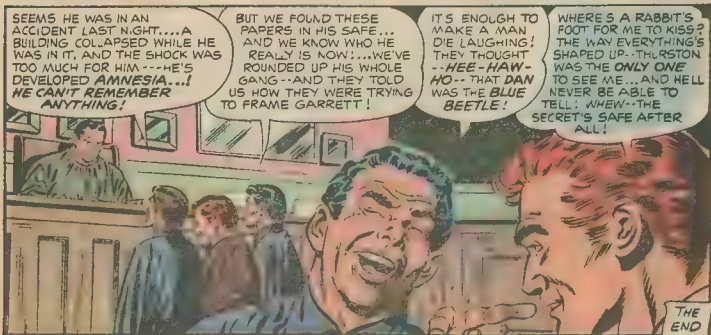
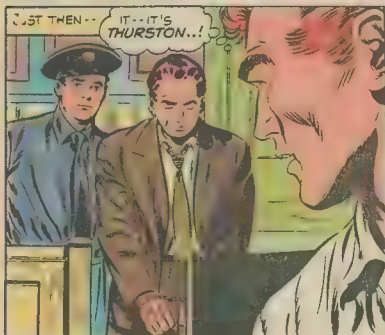
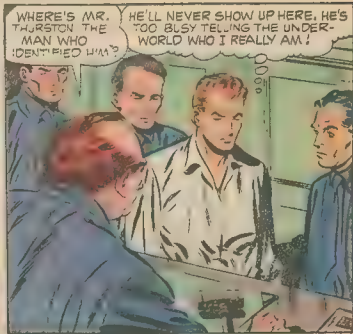
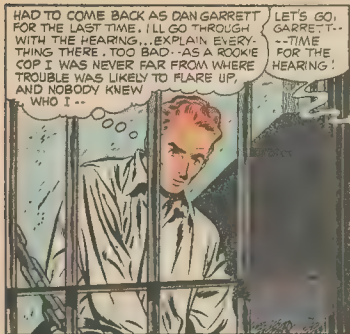
THE BUILDING'S WEAKER THAN I THOUGHT...I RAMMED INTO IT TOO HARD! ALL THOSE PEOPLE AT THE PREMIERE... IT'S GOING TO CRASH DOWN ON THEM!



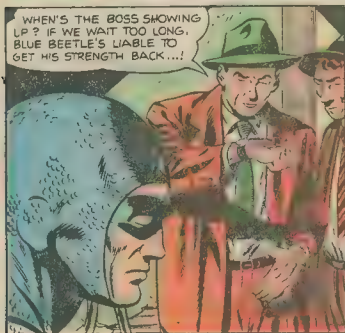
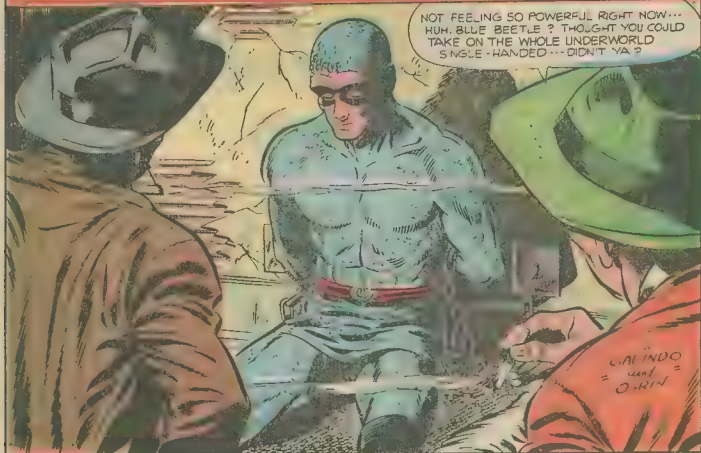
BLUE BEETLE



BLUE BEETLE



THE BLUE BEETLE *in* CAPTURED



BLUE BEETLE

WHILE THE DOOR IS BEING OPENED FOR THE GANG BOSS, LET US GO BACK TWELVE HOURS IN TIME---SO WE CAN LEARN HOW THE MIGHTY **BLUE BEETLE** HAS BEEN REDUCED TO THIS PITIABLE STATE...



WHAT'S THE FORMATION FOR MIKE?

AND HOW WOULD I BE KNOWING, DAN BOY...S IT A FORTUNE TELLER YOU'RE TAKING ME FOR?

SHHH-- HERE COMES THE COMMIS-SIONER!

I'M GOING TO GIVE IT TO YOU STRAIGHT, MEN. THERE WERE THREE BIG JEWEL ROBBERIES LAST NIGHT---AND I MEAN BIG! ...NOW THREE ROBBERIES DON'T MAKE A CRIME WAVE....



...BUT WE'VE RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THE SAME GANG PLANS TO PULL THREE MORE TODAY--AND THEN SKIP THE COUNTRY WITH THEIR HAUL. BEFORE WE CAN TRACK THEM DOWN! I'M ALERTING ALL OF YOU AS OF NOW. ALL LEAVES ARE CANCELLED, AND I WANT EVERY MAN ON THE FORCE TO KEEP HIS EYES WIDE-OPEN.!



LATER... AND HOW AM I TO BE KEEPING ME EYES OPEN FOR JEWEL THIEVES WHEN IT'S A BLUNDERING ROOKIE THEY'VE BLESSED ME WITH WHO HAS TO BE WATCHED EVERY MOMENT OR HE'LL BE TRIPPING OVER HIS OWN NIGHT-STICK!

RELAX MIKE-- I'M NOT THAT BAD.



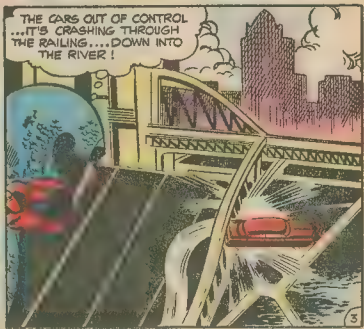
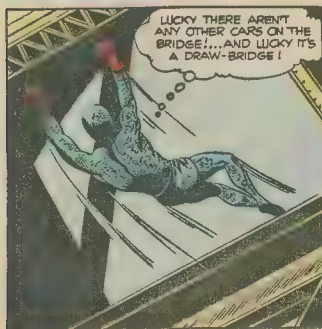
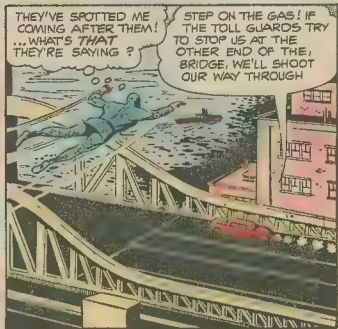
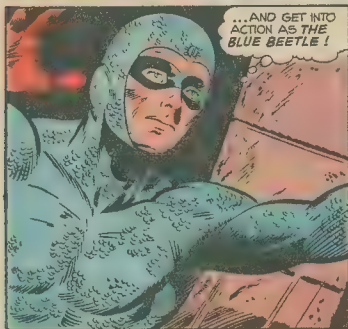
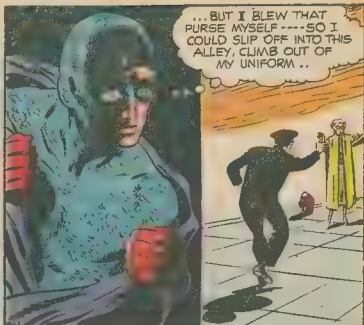
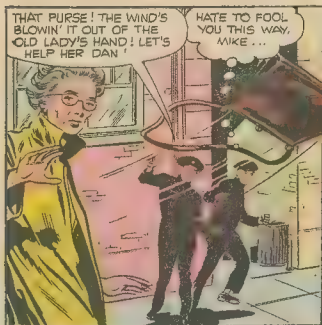
SUDDENLY... THANK YOU, X-RAY VISION, THANK YOU!! IF NOT FOR YOU, I'D NEVER HAVE SPOTTED THOSE JEWELS IN THAT CAR!



HAVE YOU SEEN SOMETHING, LAD? TELL ME.

I WON'T BE ABLE TO NAB THOSE JEWEL THIEVES UNLESS I SWITCH INTO THE **BLUE BEETLE**!! AND MIKE'S GRIPPING MY ARM...

BLUE BEETLE





**Boys! Girls!
Men!
Women!**

**Do You Want to get
\$50 or \$100 EXTRA MONEY?**

Here's A QUICK EASY WAY TO GET IT!

SEND NO MONEY

We Ship 24 Beautiful Super Size Religious Wall Mottos on Credit — Friends, Neighbors and Others BUY ON SIGHT!

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If you sell mottos and send payment within 15 days you receive FREE membership in the FUNman's Fun Club. Get a membership card, certificate, big packet of fun materials PLUS extra surprises! Rush coupon NOW!

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Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained under description of prize in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 15 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained.

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TOWN _____ Zone _____ STATE _____

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MAIL THIS! It's YOUR valuable FREE coupon!

GIVE TO A FRIEND! He'll thank you for the big favor!

GIVE THIS COUPON to A FRIEND

The FUNman, Dept. X-109, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Ill. FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG

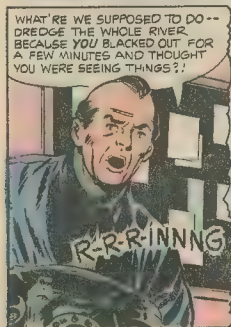
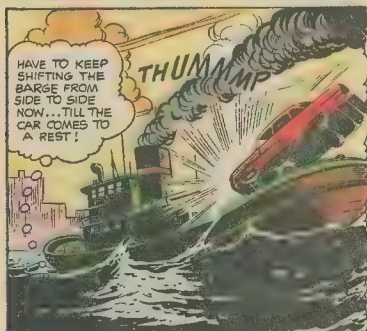
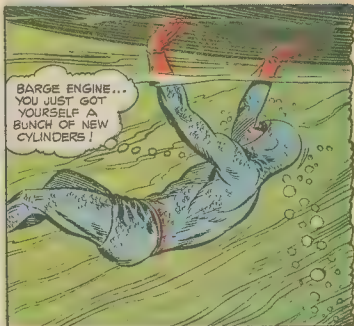
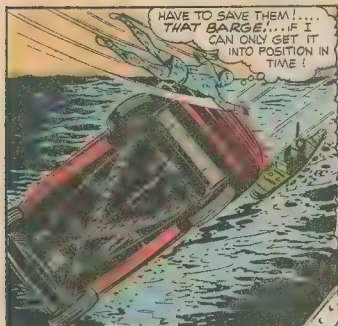
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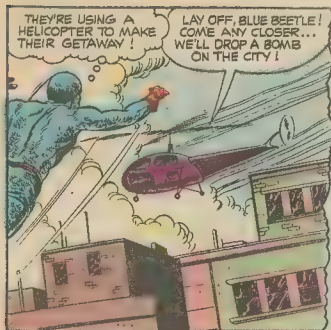
STREET or RFD _____

TOWN _____ Zone _____ STATE _____

BLUE BEETLE

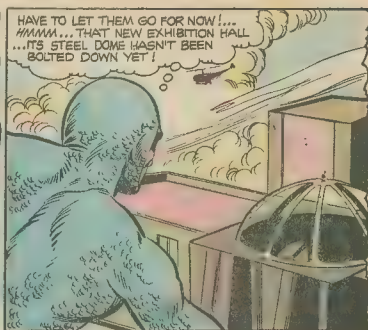


BLUE BEETLE

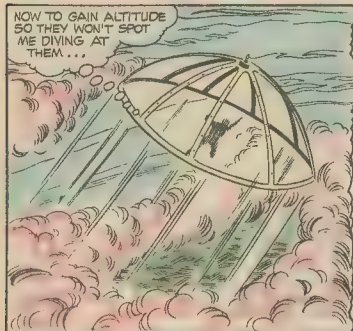


THEY'RE USING A HELICOPTER TO MAKE THEIR GETAWAY!

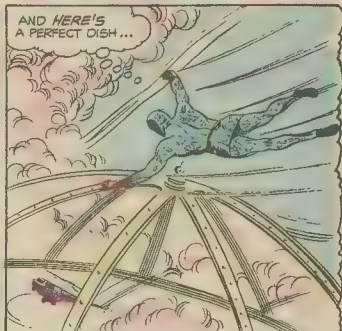
LAY OFF, BLUE BEETLE! COME ANY CLOSER... WE'LL DROP A BOMB ON THE CITY!



HAVE TO LET THEM GO FOR NOW!... HMMMM... THAT NEW EXHIBITION HALL... ITS STEEL DOME HASN'T BEEN BOLTED DOWN YET!



NOW TO GAIN ALTITUDE SO THEY WON'T SPOT ME DIVING AT THEM...



AND HERE'S A PERFECT DISH...



...TO SET BEFORE THE POLICE!



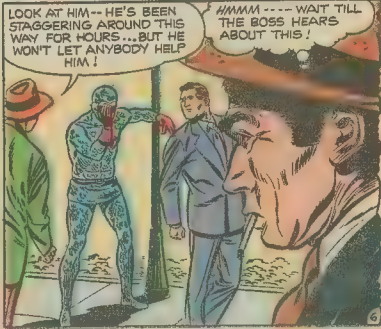
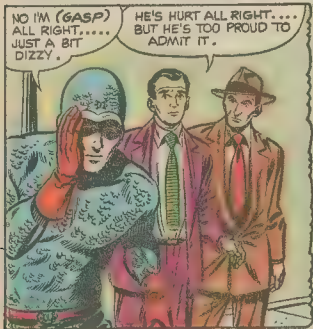
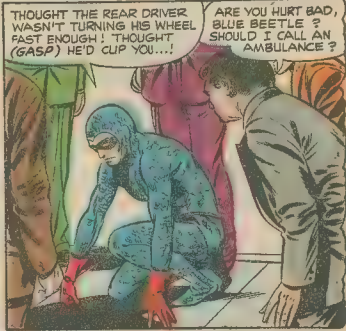
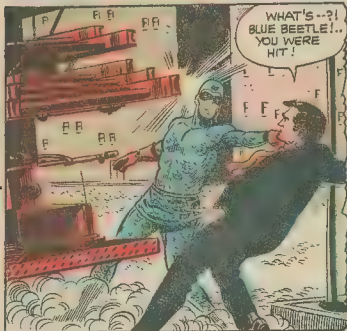
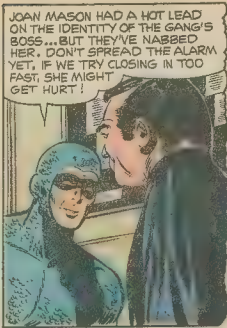
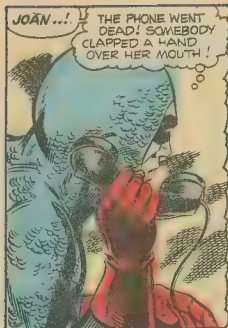
LATER-- THIS BATCH HAD THE JEWELS ON THEM ALL RIGHT--- BUT A THIRD OF THE GANG'S STILL AT LARGE...AND THEY WON'T TELL US WHO THEIR BOSS IS!

PHONE CALL FOR YOU, BLUE BEETLE!



BLUE BEETLE? I'VE BEEN CALLING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU! THIS IS JOAN MASON...YOU KNOW--THE REPORTER. LISTEN, BLUE BEETLE---I KNOW WHO'S BEHIND ALL THOSE JEWEL ROBBERIES!

BLUE BEETLE



BLUE BEETLE

THEN IN A SHADOWY SIDE STREET--

LET ME GO... I'M ALL RIGHT! I'M--

SLUG HIM! HE'S IN NO SHAPE TO FIGHT BACK!



THAT IS HOW **THE BLUE BEETLE** WAS CAPTURED!...AND NOW THE BOSS WALKS THROUGH THE OPENED DOOR--

THIS I HAD TO SEE WITH MY OWN EYES--**THE BLUE BEETLE** HELPLESS! AND TO THINK I WAS TREMBLING THAT THE GIRL REPORTER HAD TOLD HIM ENOUGH TO BRING HIM AFTER ME!

HOW'D THAT DAME EVER GET WISE TO YOU, BOSS?



SHE IS A CLEVER GIRL! SHE LEARNED THAT I, IGOR MALINSKI, WAS THE INTERIOR DECORATOR FOR ALL THE HOMES THAT WERE ROBBED--AND FROM THAT SHE DEDUCED THAT I WAS THE ONE MAN WHO WOULD KNOW THE LOCATION OF ALL THE WALL SAFES. FORTUNATELY, I OVERHEARD HER QUESTIONING MY RECEPTIONIST..!



I HAVE SEEN HIM--MY CURIOSITY IS SATISFIED. NOW GET RID OF THIS TREMBLING HULK THAT WAS ONCE A MAN OF IRON!



I'M AS STRONG AS I EVER WAS! I FAKED THAT ACCIDENT, THEN STAGGERED ABOUT SO YOU'D PULL ME IN...AND NOW I'M GOING TO PULL JOAN MASON'S WHEREABOUTS OUT OF YOU!



LATER

YOU DID A FINE JOB, BOSS. MASON. WE'RE ALL PROUD OF YOU.

BUT WHERE'S THE **BLUE BEETLE**? I WANT TO THANK HIM...!

SO THERE YOU ARE, DAN GARRET! AND WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE **THIS** TIME FOR WANDERING ABOUT, LOST IN A FOG WHEN THERE WAS IMPORTANT POLICE WORK TO BE DONE...?



THE END

MYSTERY OF THE MISSING EXPERT

by J. L. Keene

FANNY HARTLIP was just crossing West 57th Street to take the bus to Times Square, when it happened, before her very eyes.

Fanny was in a hurry. She was already late this fateful morning, and Editor Sanderson would have something to say about it. She was expected in at half past eight in the morning, so she and the other reporters could hold conference with the City Editor and get their assignments for the day. This day Fate gave her her assignment, and it was to prove more interesting than any her own editor contemplated. Of late she had been covering teas and museums and amusements. This was something else again.

As she passed the Gallery of French Moderns on West 57th Street, intent on making the next bus, a man came hurtling through the air and crashed to the pavement at her very feet. In a moment there was pandemonium. People crowded round, a woman fainted, and someone called the police. Before the police car came flying with screaming siren, Fanny had time to draw her own conclusions.

Naturally they would call it suicide. He had jumped from a seven-story building. Perhaps he had been in ill-health. Perhaps he had a criminal record. Perhaps. It was this chance that the case might prove something more than the usual suicide that kept her waiting around when she should have been reporting to an irate editor.

The police arrived and made a cursory search. Suicide, said the Captain. It happened every day. They searched his pockets for identification.

Fanny approached the captain and flashed her press-card.

"I just happened to be passing," she said.

He looked at her suspiciously.

"So you just happened to be passing. Rather a coincidence, isn't it? Go away, miss, I've got enough troubles without lady reporters."

"So you think it's suicide."

"Plain as the nose on your face," he said. She flushed, for her nose, which came to a sharp point, was rather prominent.

The Captain looked.

"Well, I declare. Then it's murder. And someone wants us to think it's a suicide."

I should say he was shot a good many hours ago. Probably last night."

The Captain nodded and looked at her with new respect.

"Tell me, Captain. Who is this man? I see you have gone through his papers."

"I'm sorry, miss, I have no business giving out any information."

"Don't you think you owe me something for saving you from a wrong diagnosis? There's gratitude for you."

He considered. "No one can in truth say I am ungrateful. Only keep it quiet. His name is Paul Lefevre."

She thanked the captain and walked across the street.

Pal Lefevre! She had heard that name somewhere. It was well-known. But for a moment she could not place it. She glanced back at the building, and from where she stood she could see it in perspective. Seven stories, with a glass-roofed studio on top. On the street-floor was the Gallery of French Moderns. Galleries and studios. Well, there were many such on 57th Street, it had no special significance. Yet.

She had it! She should have thought of it in the first place, after covering so many art shows lately. Paul Lefevre was the famous art-critic, the world's most eminent authority on the work of the French modernist Cezanne. French modernist! This was the Gallery of French Moderns. Then she remembered some-

thing else. There was at present a great showing of the works of Cezanne, sent from France for exhibition at the New Yorker Art Museum. Was there any connection?

There was no time to call the Office. Fanny jumped into a cab and was off for the museum.

The curator was worried. Was there anything wrong with the Cezanne collection? Well—Perhaps. But he could not lay his finger on just what it was. There were five paintings that — Well, he couldn't swear as to whether they were originals or not. He had sent for the one man who would know—Paul Lefevre. But he could not be found. His home said he was in San Francisco. San Francisco said he had left. He simply had disappeared into thin air. He was troubled no end.

There was work to be done. She called the Homicide Bureau and found out that Inspector Trenton had been put in charge of the case. She made an appointment to meet him in half an hour. She had information. It was important.

The inspector was interested in the chain of coincidence. There was something else, he informed her. They had found a ticket on the body for the eastbound flight of the Transcontinental Airways. How did that fit in?

San Francisco had informed them he had left hurriedly. He had never arrived in New York. If someone had sent for him, there would be a wire. The captain set his men to work. In an hour they returned with a telegram sent to the victim. It read:

"Prof. Paul Lefevre,
San Francisco, Cal.

Need services immediately connection showing
Cezanne exhibit . . . emergency . . . can you fly
here immediately . . . come to rear door museum
. . . will meet you there . . .

(signed) Jean Perlot
Assistant Curator
New York Museum"

"That's it," said the Inspector. "We're off for the museum. Come on, I'll give you a lift."

At the museum they confronted Mr. Perlot with the telegram. He broke down and admitted that he had sent it on his own responsibility. He had been troubled about the paintings, several of them had been tampered with.

He had sent for the expert, but he had never arrived. He had waited several hours, and had then gone on home. Apparently the expert could not come.

"The only crime I am guilty of," he stated, "is taking matters into my own hands here at the museum. But, you see, I could not say what was wrong with the pictures . . ."

The inspector questioned the guards. Had they seen anything suspicious lately? They hesitated. There was something, and it was sort of strange. The men who cleaned up the walls and moulding the day before, from the top of the moving stand they used, had left their scaffolding standing; and when the guards went to search for the cleaners, they had disappeared. This was interesting. The inspector went down to the basement and there, rolled up in a locker, were two pairs of new overalls.

Suddenly they heard a banging inside a closet. It was locked. They broke it open. There were the cleaning men—the real employees. It seems they had been locked in by two men in overalls.

It was beginning to add up. Fanny and the inspector now had outlined the plot. They needed only proof. That they found in a thorough search of the basement. There were dried bloodstains on the floor.

The Assistant Curator was arrested. Faced with the evidence, he confessed. He had been in league with Mr. Demaison, the owner of the Gallery of French Moderns. They had brought in their own men as cleaners, and they had exchanged the pictures, taking the originals with them. But the curator was suspicious; they knew he was about to call in the services of Paul Lefevre. They beat him to the punch. The professor had arrived at night. They had murdered him, and the following morning had thrown him from the roof of the art gallery to make it appear a suicide.

The police sent out an alarm for Mr. Demaison, the ringleader. He had fled. He was found that night on the road to Baltimore; he had fired a bullet into his head.

Fanny Hartlip was bawled out thoroughly by the City Editor. She said nothing, but sat down at her typewriter and banged out the whole story. Revenge was sweet.

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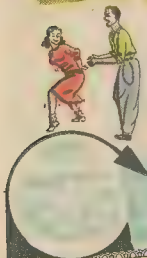
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LINDY JITTERBUG
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JOAN MASON

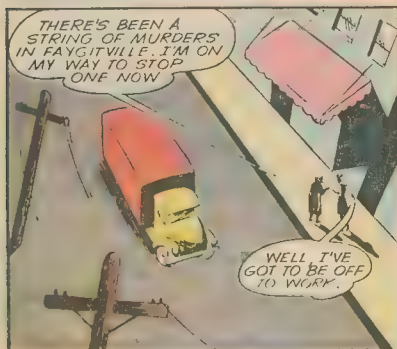
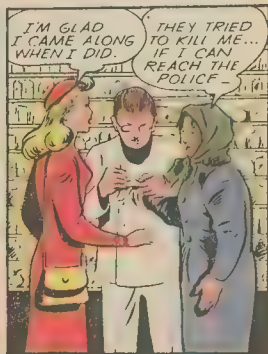
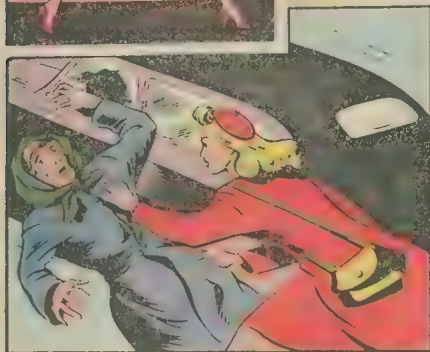
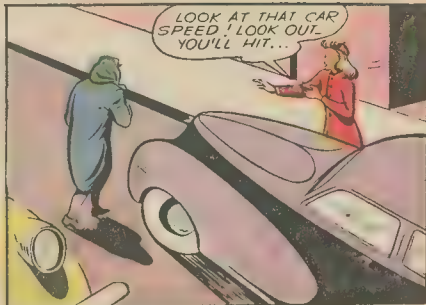
REPORTER

'SOUPY' MAC DOUGALL
AND 'RAT-FACE' REGAN
WITH FIVE YEARS OF
PRISON BEHIND THEM
FOR BANK ROBBERY.
RETURN TO FIND THEIR
LOOT STOLEN...

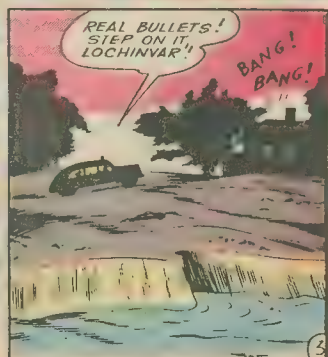
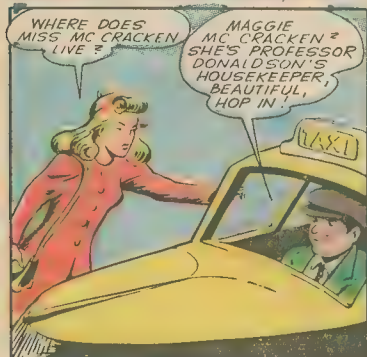
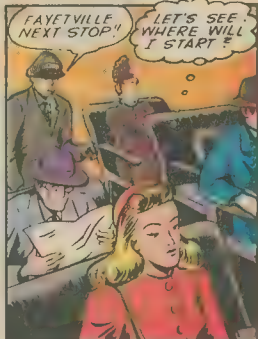
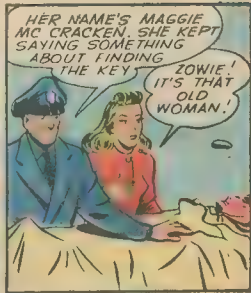
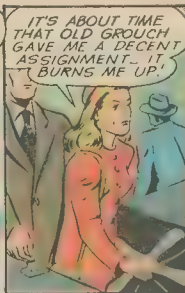
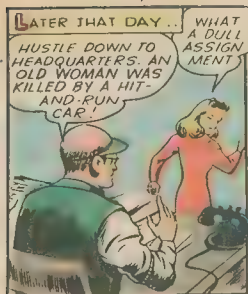


...AND WHEN MC PHERSON, JOAN MASON'S
HARD BOILED EDITOR ASSIGNS HER TO THE
STODGY TASK OF COVERING A HIT-AND-RUN
ACCIDENT IT LEADS HER INTO ONE OF THE
MOST EXCITING ADVENTURES OF HER CAREER.
"MYSTERY IN C MAJOR"

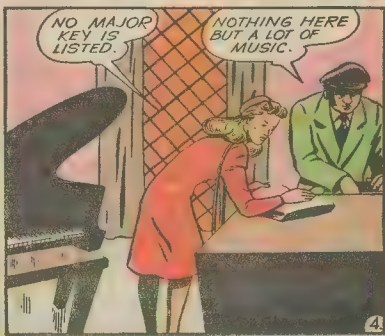
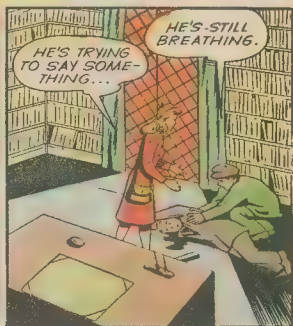
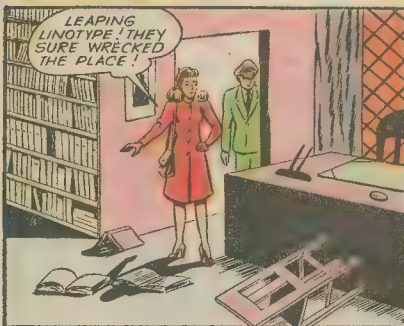
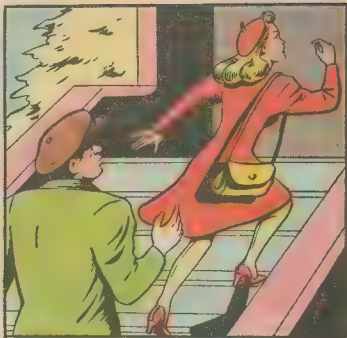
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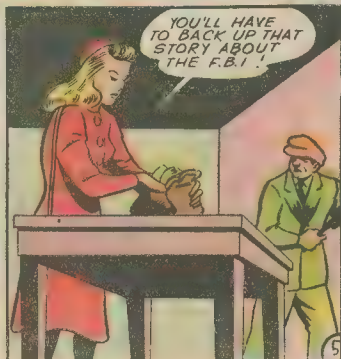
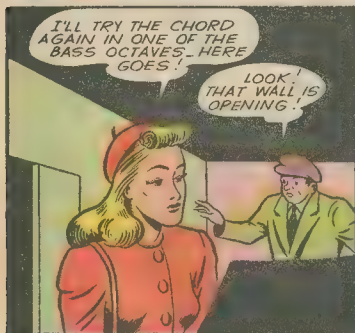
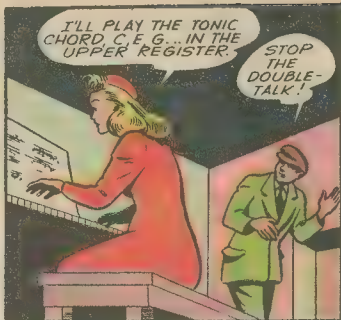
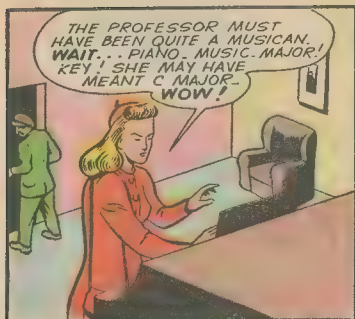


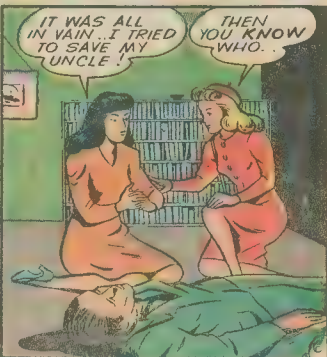
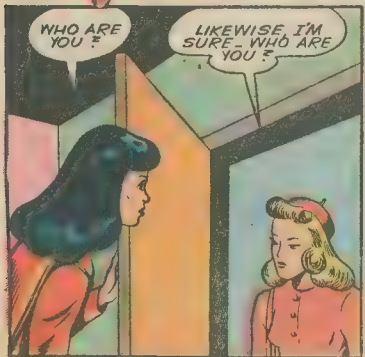
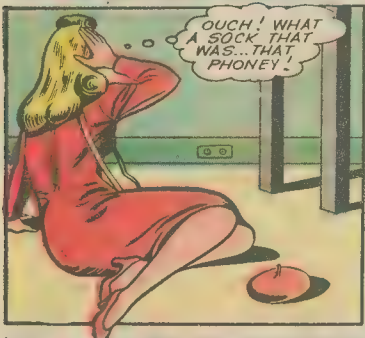
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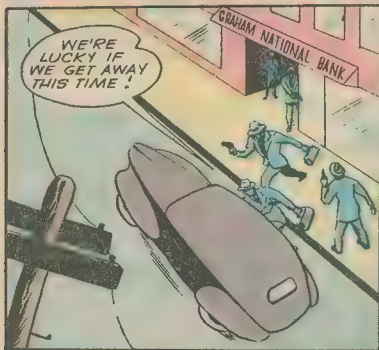


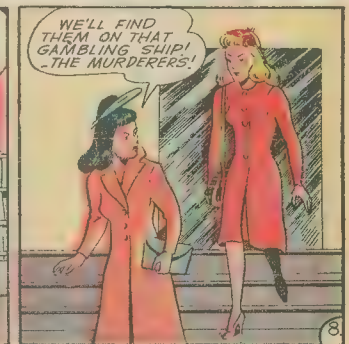
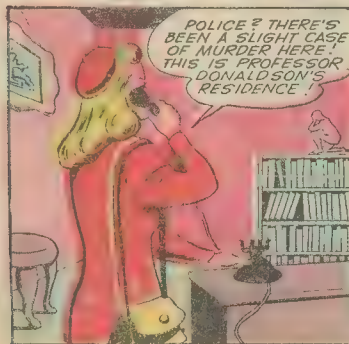
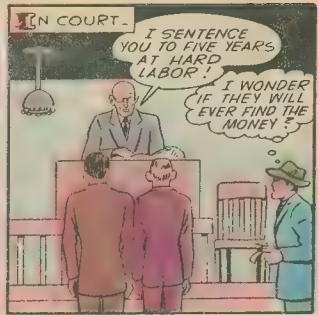
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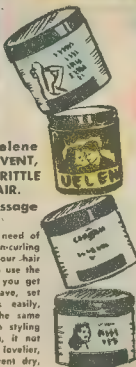




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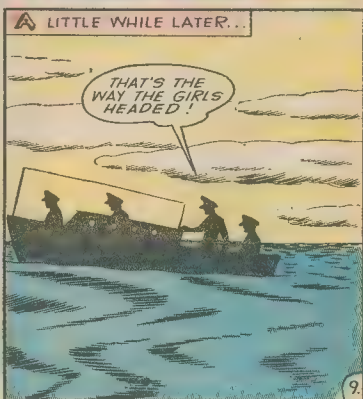
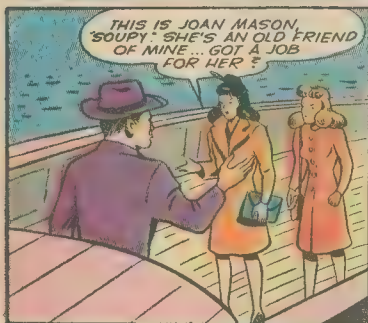
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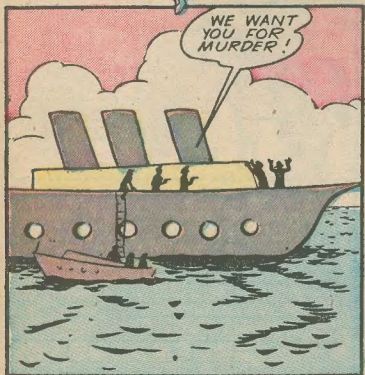


100%
GUARANTEE
MEANS WHEN IT
FALLS OUT
YOU CAN'T LOSE!

SPECIAL
3 MONTH
SILE
TREATMENT



BLUE BEETLE



SO JOAN MASON GOT HER STORY AND EDITOR MAC PHERSON GOT HER GOAT, EVEN IF THE STORY WAS A LALAPALOOZA! BUT YEOW! IT'S NOTHING TO WHAT SHE IS HEADED FOR!... DID YOU ENJOY THIS ONE? WRITE IN AND TELL US ABOUT IT!

GIVEN

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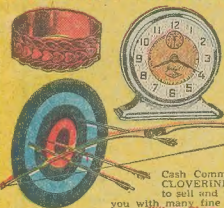
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